

REMARKS

Claims 6-14 are pending.

Claims 1-5 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the canceled claims in a continuation application.

Claims 6-11, 12/8, 12/9, 13/12/8, 13/12/9, 14/12/8 and 14/12/9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicants amend claims 6-14 accordingly. Claims 6-9 are amended to be in independent form. An Excess Claim Fee Payment Letter is provided herewith.

Claim 12 is amended to be dependent only from claims 8 or 9, and a grammatical error is corrected in the deletion of "is."

No new matter is added, no new issues are raised, and the present Amendment places this application in immediate condition for allowance. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered.

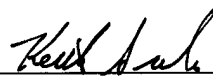
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No. 10/062,437

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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